

Claims

We claim:

1. A service support method in a wireless data network, comprising:
5 associating a user identification code with a service class; and
servicing a user according to the service class associated with the user identification
code.

2. The service support method of claim 1, wherein the associating step comprises
10 accessing a database containing a plurality of user identification codes and at least one
service, wherein each user identification code has one service class associated with it.

3. The service support method of claim 2, wherein the database comprises a
plurality of service classes, each service class defining a discrete service level.

15 4. The service support method of claim 1, wherein the user identification code is
permanently associated with the user.

5. The service support method of claim 4, wherein the user identification code is
20 one selected from the group consisting of an electronic serial number (ESN) and an
international mobile subscriber ID (IMSI).

6. The service support method of claim 1, further comprising allocating a
temporary user identification code to the user when a session with the wireless data network
25 is opened, wherein the temporary user identification code is de-allocated when the session is
closed.

7. The service support method of claim 6, wherein the temporary user
identification code is a unicast access terminal identifier (UATI).

30

8. The service support method of claim 1, wherein the service class is a QoS class.

9. A service support method in a wireless data network, comprising:
5 obtaining a user identification code from a user connecting to the network;
accessing a database containing a plurality of user identification codes and a plurality of QoS classes, each service class defining a discrete QoS level, wherein each user identification code has a corresponding one of said plurality of QoS classes;
obtaining the QoS class associated with the user identification code of the user; and
10 servicing a user according to the obtained QoS class.

10. The service support method of claim 9, wherein the user identification code is permanently associated with the user.

15 11. The service support method of claim 10, wherein the user identification code is one selected from the group consisting of an electronic serial number (ESN) and an international mobile subscriber ID (IMSI).

12. The service support method of claim 9, further comprising allocating a
20 temporary user identification code to the user when a session with the wireless data network is opened, wherein the temporary user identification code is de-allocated when the session is closed.

13. The service support method of claim 12, wherein the temporary user
25 identification code is a unicast access terminal identifier (UATI).